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Addendum

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Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001 (item 4 (b))

Section 33. Development account

1. At its 36th meeting, on 25 June 1999, the Committee considered section 33, Development account, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001 (A/54/6 (Sect. 33)).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

3. It was noted that the General Assembly had yet to approve modalities for the operation of the development account. It was noted with regret that the budget section did not contain a detailed programme of work for the biennium 2000–2001, as required by the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation. However, the view was also expressed that it would not have been appropriate to submit a programme of work before there was agreement on the modalities for operating the development account.

4. The view was expressed that project proposals envisaged for the biennium 1998–1999 should have been submitted for the approval of the Committee in 1998 rather than to the Economic and Social Council. The view was also expressed that proposals identifying future efficiency measures should be submitted to Member States before the General Assembly approved the modalities for the operation of the development account.

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5. The view was expressed that section 33 should be omitted from the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001 and that the proposed budget for this section should be submitted separately as soon as the General Assembly had decided on the modalities for the operation of the development account.

Conclusions and recommendations

6. The Committee noted that the programme narrative for the utilization of the amount approved for the development account had not been submitted.

7. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to submit the proposals for the utilization of the development account to the Assembly at its fifty-fourth session.